SURVIVE™

MARVEL

BENDIS
QUINONES
BEREDO

001

Previously in ULTIMATE CATACLYSM...

On another Earth in another dimension, massive amounts of time travel abuses amongst the super hero community created a series of rips in the space-time continuum that wreaked havoc across the galaxy.

One such rip dropped a cosmic force into this universe known only as Galactus, with a carnal appetite for entire worlds

Galactus attempted to consume the planet but with the combined efforts of the Ultimates, Spider-Man and the X-Men, they banished him to the Negative Zone where he can do no more harm.

But not without losses. Both Captain America and Thor sacrificed themselves in the amazing battle - a battle that saw former terrorist Reed Richards step up and help save the day.

SURVIVE

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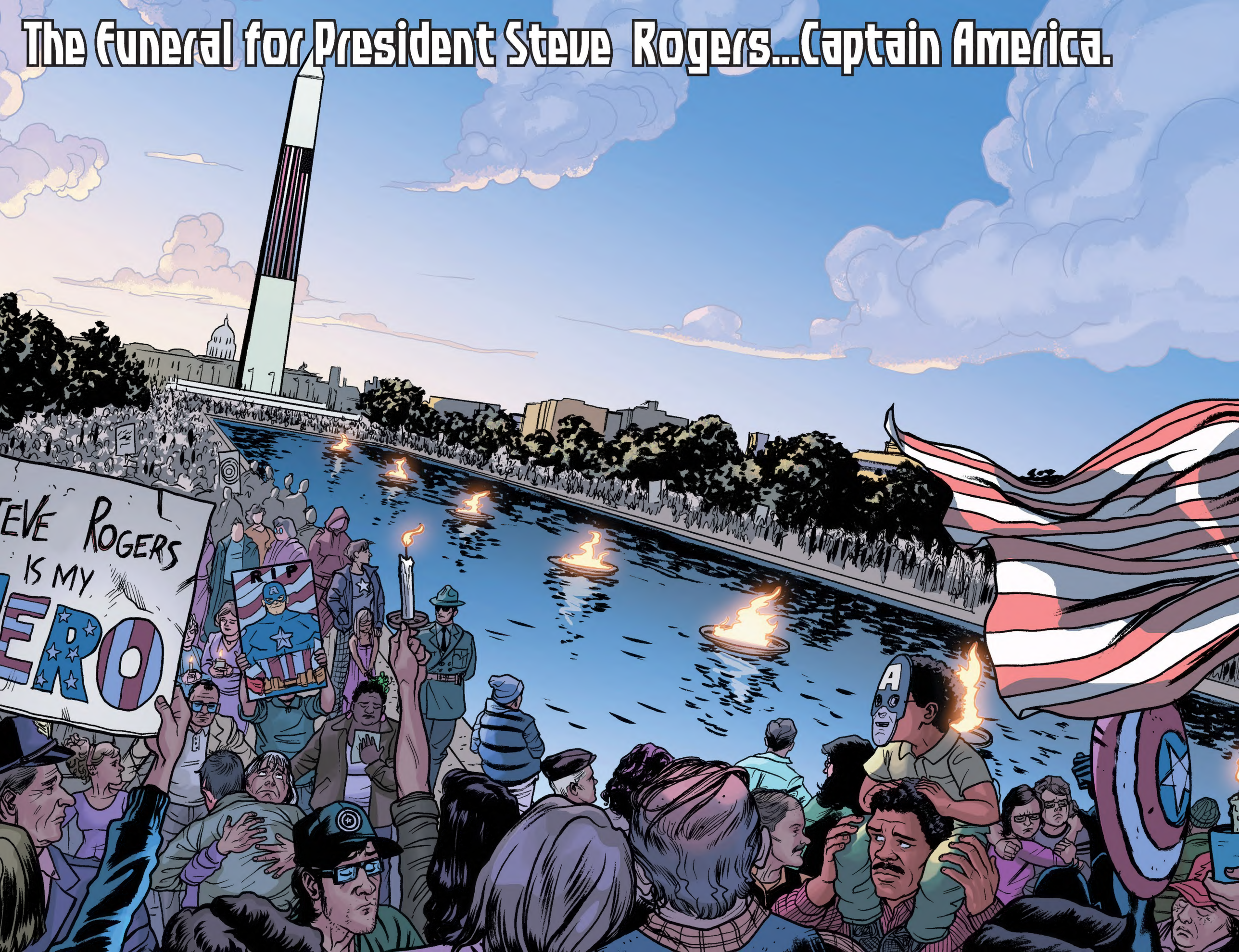
The Funeral for President Steve Rogers...Captain America.



Welcome to Stark Tower.

Welcome to the real memorial.

This one is for those of us who knew the man...

Who *worked* and *fought* alongside him.

I thought long and hard about how to do this. Because there was the Captain America they knew...

The man *they* needed.

And then there was the man *we* knew.

The man who inspired *the hell* out of us.

Just-- just by walking.

That was my favorite thing about him.

He'd walk in the room, all humble, right? Not doing or saying anything...

But just by him *being* there... whatever I was doing I'd suddenly feel: *Oh no, I'm-- I'm not doing enough.*

Oh, God!

Right?

I was going to say, I was going to miss that the most but I'm really not.

(That's a little joke.) I know, a bad one.

"How bad is it?"

Four Days Ago.
New Jersey.

Ms. Chang?

I'm Franklin Nelson.

Your attorney asked me to come in his place.

I'm a partner at--

I know who you are.

Just tell me. How bad is it?

My boss is sorry he couldn't be here himself--

How bad is it?

They are looking to press charges...

They're looking to press charges against *me*?

They blame *me* for the Galactus--

Well, there will be hearings--

Millions of people died and you *were* in charge, Ms. Chang.

You knew *something* like this might happen.

And nobody is giving *any thought* to the fact that an out-of-control cosmic entity came here from *another universe* and started *eating* us!

With *no* warning!

Because we had no way of *being* warned that something we didn't know even exists would *come here* and start doing something we didn't even know *could be done!*

Someone has to pay the check...

And they decided it's going to be you.

So I'm fired?

We're hearing--I probably shouldn't even say--but we're hearing they're going to dismantle S.H.I.E.L.D. entirely.

No!

Shhh!

NO!

Why would they *do* that?!

Something about "complete failure to fulfill its objective and goal of keeping the world safe..."

Will I-- will I at least have my day in court?

People will testify that I did everything in my power to--

Like who? Captain America?

Thor?

I did the best I could--

Which apparently included allowing terrorist Reed Richards full access to the Tricarrier.

You did, right? You allowed him aboard this top-secret S.H.I.E.L.D. vessel and gave him full access...

And now it's here, like this...

And in return he was the *centerpiece* of the plan that *saved* us.

We needed to think outside the box and *we did* and it's the only reason we're *still here.*

But you can see how that's going to look at a congressional hearing.

It will look like everyone is still *alive* enough to *have* a congressional hearing!

Take my card. We'll schedule some brainstorming sessions.

No more S.H.I.E.L.D.

What are they going to put in its place?

"I don't know about the rest of you but I was kind of hoping for another miracle..."

I want Steve Rogers to walk right through that rooftop entrance and bark at us to *get back to work!*

But I know he's not.

I want time and space, impossibly, to bring Steve Rogers back one more time.

Guess that's asking for one impossibility too many.

The thing is if anyone could do it, it would be Cap.

The man out of time.

Maybe he'll, I don't know, re-form himself somehow and wake up in the year 3020 or something.

Start it up all over again.

Maybe he's like King Arthur.

Maybe he'll come back when we need him the most.

The Baxter Building.
Three Days Ago.

Reed Richards...

Young man, if what I have read about your work is true, the honor is all mine.

Please, let me introduce you to my greatest achievements...

This is my daughter, Sue.

And the young man is my son, Johnny.

Yo yo.

Please, Richards, tell me you're not having a flashback...

Susan.

I thought you'd be helping with the Jersey cleanup.

I was but they sent me home.

Have you slept?

That was recommended, as well.

What are you doing here?

I know I am confusing you of late.

Last week, you were trying to kill us all. This week, you help save us all.

Either you had some kind of nervous breakdown that turned you into an evil @$@^&*&^.

Or you're an evil $@#$&*% and had a nervous breakdown that turned you into a selfless guy.

Either way, yeah, you're freaking everyone out.

I don't have it all figured out yet, myself.

I think you're up to something.

I know you do.

But I can't for the life of me figure out the angle.

Neither can I.

Stop it.

What?

This whole thing here.

Susan, you're going to have to learn to--

Force-field.

I'm not going to hurt you.

Yeah.

You're not.

What happened to you on that other Earth?

I told you: I saw what could have been, what I callously tossed away...

I saw us married, heroes and adventurer scientists, with a son and a daughter.

I looked into our daughter's eyes.

Do you know when mom is coming back with my dress?

She said she would help me with my--

You're not my father.

I saw a full life built and maintained.

I have files of all these amazing adventures and dimensions and things we/ they have discovered as a family.

You hacked their files.

Of course I did.

They're half mine anyhow. Would you like to see--?

No.

It reveals our full potential.

And it was so much more than I could have hoped for.

We're not getting back together, Richards.

Clearly.
There is more to it than--
Because it was in this very room where you tried to murder me with an alien spore.
Right in this very--
I have seen our full potential...
And it haunts me.
Why are you here?
I was thinking about the Baxter Building think tank, where we first met.
The exciting and wonderful work we were doing.
I wonder if the think tank was still around, if it had evolved into what it was ***supposed*** to...
If we would have been able to deal with this Galactus in a more efficient manner.
Yeah...
It was a good idea. A grand idea.
It was your father's idea.
Logic clearly dictates that S.H.I.E.L.D. will cease to be soon.
Maybe.
No, it will.
"They are going to need *something*."
What that something is, I do not know...

But without Cap...

Or Thor...

There is no *Ultimates.*

Certainly not like it was.

The Ultimates are no more.

Maybe I'll find my feet in a few weeks.

Maybe the hurt is just too raw and I'm not thinking straight...

But I *cannot imagine* walking into the Ultimates HQ and not seeing them.

I cannot.

I know it sounds defeatist.

I know.

But I can't do it.

I can't do it without them.

Maybe-- maybe some of you younger heroes will rise to the occasion.

Maybe you'll find a way to make it work.

I hope you do.

Cap-- *Cap* would hope you do.

"I'm sorry... I'm looking for Kitty Pryde."

I told you reporters: You can't just *ring the bell!*

I will *call the police!*

Ma'am, we're not reporters.

We're from the White House.

The *White House* White House?

Are you Devora Pryde, ma'am?

Uh, yes.

We were led to believe your daughter Katherine is here.

She-- she is. How did you--?

Oh please-- please...she's been through *so much.*

I-I haven't seen her in a year and suddenly she decides to come home and--

She's not in trouble, ma'am.

She came home to--

Ma'am, she's not in any trouble.

She needed sleep. She needed to be safe.

Ma'am.

We have a phone call for her.

Because she's still just a--

A phone call?

Miss Pryde?

This call is for you.

Hello?

Miss Pryde, this is the President of the United States.

Uh...

S'up?

I hear you're not an easy person to find.

I-I was, uh, sleeping.

I still might be.

Well, I don't think I have to tell you the entire country, the entire world, owes you a huge debt of gratitude.

Uh, okay.

I want you to come to the White House tomorrow and accept the Medal of Freedom.

I know you don't know me but I promise you...you and I have a great deal in common.

I have been quietly fighting to push a pro-mutant agenda through the single most stubborn Congress in the history of this great nation.

I have been pushing this agenda up a slippery hill.

Sometimes all by myself.

But you, what you did...

Not only did you save us from what Tony Stark is telling me was certain extinction...

You did it with a lot of character.

You single-handedly proved to the world that fear of mutants is a ridiculous concept.

There is good and bad in all of us and I say the good needs to be celebrated and admired no matter the shape, race, or religion.

What you had to do to survive up until now is a thing of the past.

It's time to change some minds for good.

I want you to join me, young woman.

I want you to stand with me and put the fear and discrimination of mutants behind us once and for all. Will you do that? Can I count on you?

Y-yes, uh, yes, sir.

"So what does this mean? What am I talking about?"

I'm talking about the legend of Captain America living on through you.

You and you and you.

Hell, everyone.

But I know asking for everyone to act like the best version of themselves is asking a lot.

So I'm just going to put it upon all of you.

The world is saved but it is hardly fixed.

And if you study your history you know that after every disaster, crime rates actually skyrocket.

You'd think that the opposite would happen...

You would think that almost dying would sober people up and they'd stop acting like idiots...

But the opposite happens.

Crime will be up, people will need you to be your best more than ever.

That might mean some of you making big choices.

Some of you deciding what kind of hero you'll want to be...

How far you're willing to go in the name of what you believe in...

"You want me to do what?"

It means you take this thing here and you break it down and you put it in that truck there and you drive it to this location here.

This giant thing the alien made to eat us? We should just toss it in a truck?

You break it down--

SNAP

Break it down and put it on the--what's your name?

Uh, guys...

I ain't touchin' that thing.

I didn't sign up for gettin' space cancer of the gonads.

You're getting ***paid*** to clear the area and bring it all to Stark Labs.

Everyone ***clear the area!!!***

Aw damn...

What happened?

Jeez...

Okay, that *was* close.

Come on, get out of there.

You would think I would know if my webs could hold the weight of this thing...but I don't.

Spider-Man, wow, thank you.

That's all you wanna say to this guy?!

Dude, you listen, I own a part of a bar in Brooklyn called Excelsior. You come in, whatever you want, on the *house*.

I'm-- no. That's okay.

SNAPPP

I was just coming by to see if anyone needed any--

Jeez!!

CRASH

Nice one.

Spider-Woman.

I'm actually thinking of changing that.

Really?

What are you doing here, anyway?

Thought you could use some help with the cleanup.

The entire state of New Jersey is destroyed.

This clean-up will take years.

Well, still, anything I could do...

Actually I was going to come find you...

I have an idea and I need you to be part of it.

Yeah?

"I don't mean to interrupt..."

Sorry, Tony, but you're talking about Cap's legacy...

And you're talking about the next generation stepping up.

Who interrupts a eulogy?

Well, I was going to tell you later but I see the look on your face and here we are and I can't help but think I should tell you now.

We've been talking amongst ourselves and we *are* going to keep it going.

Spider-Man, Kitty, Bombshell, Cloak and Dagger.

We're going to do what we can to honor Cap and Thor and you and we're going to take the new day head-on.

And that's just the beginning.

You're looking at the beginning of ***THE NEW ULTIMATES.***

THE YOUNG ULTIMATES.

Well, ain't that exactly what he would have wanted.

Well, then...

To the new day.

THE NEW DAY!!!!

Not The End!

ZONE